



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 18, 2011

### **S. 766** **Devil's Staircase Wilderness Act of 2011**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on November 10, 2011*

S. 766 would designate about 30,520 acres of federal land in Oregon as the Devil's Staircase Wilderness. The bill also would designate about 15 miles of creeks in the area as wild rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Based on information provided by the agencies that administer those areas, CBO estimates that implementing S. 766 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting S. 766 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

The acreage and waterways to be added by S. 766 to the National Wilderness Preservation System or the Wild and Scenic Rivers System are already owned by the federal government and are currently administered by either the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for conservation purposes. CBO expects that designating those areas as wilderness would not raise the costs of managing or protecting them. We estimate that any costs to revise brochures, maps, and signs to reflect the new designations would be minimal because most such revisions would take place in conjunction with scheduled reprinting and routine maintenance.

The lands that would be designated as wilderness under the bill are already managed for conservation purposes and produce no income from commercial activities. Therefore, CBO estimates that enacting S. 766 would have no effect on offsetting receipts.

S. 766 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.